

Message Text

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20

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

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R 030611Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7854

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

WPEMBASSY NEW DELHI 843

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L RANGOON 0859

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR BM BG MY IN PK TH AS NZ

SUBJ: OFFICIAL VISITS TO AND FROM BURMA

REF: (A) DACCA 1407 (NOTAL; (B) BANGKOK 4630 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY. IMPENDING VISIT TO RANGOON BY MALAYSIAN PRIMIN TUN RAZAK BEGINS WHAT WILL BE A BUSY MONTH OF OFFICIAL TRAVEL TO AND FROM BURMA. EXPECTED VISITORS TO RANGOON INCLUDE ALSO THAI FONMIN, WHILE NE WIN IS SCHEDULED TO VISIT INDIA, PAKISTAN, AND BANGLADESH. WITH EXCEPTION OF THAI FONMIN'S VISIT, IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT THE CONVERSATIONS WILL TURN MORE ON REGIONAL THAN ON BILATERAL ISSUES. END SUMMARY.

2. VISIT BY MALAYSIAN PRIMIN TUN RAZAK TO BURMA HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED TO TAKE PLACE APRIL 6 TO 8. THIS RETURNS NE WIN'S VISIT OF JUNE 1973 AND CONTINUES SERIES OF VISITS EXCHANGED BY SENIOR GUB AND MALAYSIAN OFFICIALS. BILATERAL ISSUES BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES ARE PRACTICALLY NON-EXISTENT, BUT NE WIN AND RAZAK, WHO HAVE MUTUAL REGARD FOR ONE ANOTHER, WILL FIND AMPLE SUBJECT FOR CONVERSATION, AND CONSIDERABLE SIMILARITY IN VIEWS, ON CONCEPT OF

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NON-ALIGNMENT.

3. THAI FOREIGN MINISTER CHARUNPHAN ARRIVES APRIL 10 FOR VISIT RETURNING THAT OF THEN GUB FONMIN U KYAW SOE IN MARCH 1973. BILATERAL MATTERS, INCLUDING NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING, INSURGENCY, AND SMUGGLING, ARE LIKELY TO BE MAIN SUBJECT FOR DISCUSSION. WE HAVE STILL SEEN NO INDICATION THAT RECENT KAREN-PDP OUTBREAK AT MYAWADI WILL SERIOUSLY IMPAIR ATMOSPHERE OF VISIT. FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL COMMENTED THAT GUB DISTINGUISHES BETWEEN INSURGENCY DELIBERATELY FOMENTED BY A NEIGHBORING COUNTRY, AND INSURGENCY BASED IN A NEIGHBORING, LIKE BURMA A DEVELOPING ONE, WHICH HAS UNDERSTUMDABLE PROBLEMS IN CONTROLLING ITS OWN TERRITORY. HE PROCEEDED TO CLASSIFY CHINESE-SPONSORED BCP IN FORMER CATEGORY AND IMPLIED THAT THAI-BASED DISSIDENTS ARE SEEN IN LATTER LIGHT.

4. ABOUT APRIL 20 NE WCC LEAVES FOR A TRIP WHICH WILL TAKE HIM TO PAKISTAN, INDIA, AND BANGLADESH IN THAT ORDER. FINAL STOP MAY AS REF A POINTS OUT DEPEND ON PRIMIN MUJIB'S HEALTH; BENGALIEE EMBOFF HERE EXPRESSED VIEW THAT VISIT WOULD TAKE PLACE ONLY IF MUJIB RETURNED AND ABLE RECEIVE NE WIN BY THAT TIME.

5. BURMA HAS A FEW PENDING TRADE ISSUES WITH SUBCONTINENT (BANGLADESH WANTS TO BUY BURMESE RICE; BURMA WANTS INDIAN COAL AND INDIAN OR PAKISTANI COTTON YARN) BUT THESE ARE MATTERS NOT LIKELY TO BE DISCUSSED BY HEADS OF STATE. MORE LIKELY SUBJECTS FOR TALK WITH MUJIB MIGHT INCLUDE DEMARCATION OF BOUNDARIES FOR OFFSHORE OIL EXPLOITATION (AND OFFSHORE OIL POLICY GENERALLY), GOBD DESIRE FOR BURMESE AMBASSADOR TO BE NAMED TO DACCA, RANGOON-DACCA AIR SERVICES, AND SECURITY SITUATION IN NORTHWESTERN BURMA NEAR BANGLADESH BOUNDARY. BENGALIEE EMBOFF NOTED HIS GOVERNMENT'S CONCERN THAT REMAINING BCP (WHITE FLAG AND RED FLAG) ELEMENTS IN ARAKAN MIGHT BE USED BY PRC TO STIR UP TROUBLE IN POLITICALLY SENSITIVE MINORITY AREAS OF CHITTAGONG HILL TRACTS.

6. IN THESE VISITS ALSO, HOWEVER, REGIONAL ISSUES ARE LIKELY TO PREDOMINATE. GUB DISTASTE FOR ORGANIZED NON-ALIGNED POLITICS AND FOR POLICY OF SHRILL SCOLDING ABOUT ISSUES SUCH AS INDIAN OCEAN ZONE OF PEACE AND DIEGO GARCIA MIGHT USEFULLY COME THROUGH TO SUBCONTINENT LEADERS. IN ADDITION, SINCE BOTH PAKISTANI AND BENGALIEE OFFICIALS EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH BURMESE NEUTRALITY IN 1971 WAR, NE WIN IS AN OBVIOUS POTENTIAL CHANNEL FOR ANY
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MESSAGES WHICH PRIMIN BHUTTO WISHES CONVEYED TO MUJIB OR MRS. RMGANDHI.
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Message Attributes

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